

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
LAFAYETTE DIVISION

CHERYL L FENELON ET AL

CIVIL ACTION NO. 6:21-CV-01221

VERSUS

JUDGE JUNEAU

U S DEPT OF HOUSING & URBAN
DEVELOPMENT ET AL

MAGISTRATE JUDGE PATRICK J. HANNA

MEMORANDUM RULING

Before the Court is a “Verified Complaint and Request for Emergency Injunction” filed by Cheryl Fenelon and Barbara Jackson [“Plaintiffs”] appearing *pro se*, Rec. Doc. 1, against twenty-one defendants including the U.S. Department of Justice and several federal judges.¹ For the reasons set forth below, the Court dismisses this matter for lack of subject matter jurisdiction without prejudice to the right of Plaintiffs to refile.

The pleadings of *pro se* litigants are held to a more lenient standard than those of attorneys and are construed liberally, *Mendoza-Tarango v. Flores*, 982 F.3d 395, 399 (5th Cir. 2020). However, *pro se* plaintiffs must prove that the court has jurisdiction based on

¹ The complete list of Defendants as stated by Plaintiffs are: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Lafayette Bar Association, Tony R. Moore (Federal Court Clerk), Roman Catholic Diocese of Lafayette, Louisiana Services Network Data Consortium (LSNDC), Merritt Chastain, Rickey Hall, Sr (HALL Builders), U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Desiree Williams-Auzenne (Lafayette Assistant DOJ), Carol Whitehurst (Lafayette Federal Magistrate); Robert Summerhays (Lafayette Federal Judge), Katherine R. Vincent (Lafayette Assistant DOJ, Louisiana Housing Corporation; Judge Jay Zainey, Sr. (in personal capacity as founder of H.E.L.P.), Cook, Yancey, King & Galloway Law Offices, Pittre Renaia Pogue Walker; Eric Gammons; Samuel Maurice Hicks (Shreveport Federal Judge), Mark Lane Hornsby (Shreveport Federal Magistrate); Dennis R Everett, Sr., and Lake Bethlehem Baptist Church.

the complaint and evidence, *Dos Santos v. Belmere Ltd. Partnership*, 516 Fed. App'x 401, 402-03 (5th Cir. 2013). In addition, *pro se* plaintiffs are required to plead factual allegations that rise above a speculative level, *Chhim v. University of Texas at Austin*, 836 F.3d 467, 469 (5th Cir. 2016) and must abide by the rules that govern federal courts. *E.E.O.C. v. Simbaki, Ltd.*, 767 F. 3d 475, 484 (5th Cir. 2014).

The Complaint in this matter, in addition to naming the parties and stating that the "complaint contains 17 pages of exhibits" which are attached to the complaint" consists of four sentences which contain no factual allegations.²

The Complaint asserts that this Court has subject-matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 because their claims arise under the Fair Housing Act violations ("FHA"), 42 U.S.C. § 3601, et. seq; Conspiracy to violate Civil Rights, and Antitrust Law violations. However, Plaintiffs do not allege any facts regarding how these statutes were violated. In addition, although there are twenty-one Defendants named in the Complaint, the

² The Complaint, Rec. Doc. 1, states: This civil action arises under Fair Housing Act violations ("FHA"), 42 U.S.C. § 3601, et. seq; Conspiracy to violate Civil Rights, and Antitrust Law violations. Plaintiffs -also file this action for a Temporary Restraining Order, Declaratory Judgment, and Preliminary and Permanent Injunctive Relief and Damages.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

This Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 over Plaintiffs' causes of action as federal questions arising from Plaintiffs' claims that occurred in this Western District Federal Court.

PRAYER AND JURY DEMAND

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Barbara Fenelon Jackson and Cheryl Fenelon pray that this complaint be deemed good and sufficient, and after conclusion of due proceedings, that there be entry of judgment in Plaintiffs favor and against the Defendants.

Complaint does not describe what any defendant has to do with Plaintiffs and/or the statutes cited.

Plaintiffs also seek a Temporary Restraining Order, Declaratory Judgment, and Preliminary and Permanent Injunctive Relief and Damages. However, Plaintiffs do not allege their injury or who/what they seek to enjoin. In addition, while there are 17 pages of Exhibits attached to the Complaint, the Court is unable to decipher what they mean and how they are related to the Complaint.

On July 8, 2021, this Court gave the Plaintiffs until August 8, 2021, to amend their Complaint to assert a valid basis for subject matter jurisdiction. Plaintiffs filed "Responses, Oppositions, and Objections to Courts July 8 Memorandum Ruling," Rec. Doc.4, stating among other things:

Plaintiffs respectfully assert that they sincerely belie[ve] that they should not be forced "to amend." Moreover, Plaintiffs believe that they have a lawful right not to be deemed as a "Prisoner filer," and that they have a right to pay for and re-file —rather than amend their civil action that urgently needs judicial relief as the facts below prove.

In the alternative, Plaintiffs asked for additional time to comply with the Court's Memorandum Ruling.

This Court then gave Plaintiffs until September 15, 2021 to add to or amend their complaint to set forth factual allegations which would assert subject matter jurisdiction. As explained in the Court's Memorandum Rulings, Rec. Docs. 3 and 4, even construing the Complaint and the Exhibits liberally, the Court is unable to determine the factual

allegations of the Complaint and/or whether it has subject-matter jurisdiction over this matter. As of October 22, 2021, Plaintiffs have not complied with the Court's requests and this Court is unable to determine whether it has subject matter jurisdiction. Thus, the Court finds that Plaintiffs have not met their burden of proving that this Court has jurisdiction over this matter. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED, AJUDGED AND DECREED that this matter is **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE** to the right of Plaintiffs to refile the lawsuit.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in Lafayette, Louisiana, on this 22nd day of October, 2021.



MICHAEL J. JUNEAU
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE